

Message

From: McAtee, Jeffrey [McAtee.Jeffrey@epa.gov]
Sent: 11/5/2020 9:02:44 PM
To: Gray, David [gray.david@epa.gov]
CC: Tanimura, Erin [Tanimura.Erin@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: HQ Announcements

Got it. Will do.
-JMc

On Nov 5, 2020, at 12:57 PM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks.

We need to start pulling together issue papers for his trip. You have the guidance and format from HQ. They will be looking for them by the due date and with the Holiday next week time is short.

David

From: McAtee, Jeffrey <McAtee.Jeffrey@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 2:40 PM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: HQ Announcements

David – here are a few other possibilities:

The cities of Allen and Plano won national WaterSense awards:

The city of Plano, Texas, earned the Sustained Excellence Award for a range of efforts to engage consumers on how to save water indoors and outdoors. The city of Allen was awarded as Promotional Partner of the Year for their work with education and outreach.

Also, **EPA Region 6 CWSRF and DWSRF Project in Denton and Tarrant Counties and Proximity** (table attached)

The food waste study I mentioned earlier:

EPA Announces the Selection of 12 Organizations to Receive \$3 Million in Funding to Support Anaerobic Digestion in Communities

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-selection-12-organizations-receive-3-million-funding-support-anaerobic>

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that the Agency selected 12 recipients expected to receive approximately \$3 million in funding to help reduce food loss and waste and to divert food waste from landfills by expanding anaerobic digester capacity in the United States. The project types selected for funding include feasibility studies, demonstration projects, as well as technical assistance and training. EPA anticipates that it will make these awards once all legal and administrative requirements are satisfied.

North Central Texas Council of Governments (Arlington, Texas): Plans to coordinate with stakeholders in the North Central Texas region to complete a food waste to fuel feasibility study.

Or,

Trump EPA Approves First-Ever Long-Lasting Antiviral Product for Use Against COVID-19

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/icymi-trump-epa-approves-first-ever-long-lasting-antiviral-product-use-against-covid-19>

Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler announced a groundbreaking development in the Trump Administration's efforts to combat the novel coronavirus. In a first-of-its kind step, EPA has issued an emergency exemption to the state of Texas permitting it to allow **American Airlines** and Total Orthopedics Sports & Spine to use a new product that kills coronavirus like the SARS-CoV-2 virus on surfaces for up to seven days. After carefully reviewing the available data and information, the agency has determined that the product helps to address the current national emergency. This product is expected to provide longer-lasting protection in public spaces, increasing consumer confidence in resuming normal air travel and other activities.

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, to improve the resilience of underserved communities in Houston to hurricane- and flood-induced releases of metals and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from industrial facilities.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-selects-over-40-organizations-receive-93-million-pollution-prevention-grants>

Today, during Pollution Prevention (P2) Week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the selection of 42 organizations across 39 states to receive grant funding totaling \$9.3 million, supporting pollution prevention across the country. These grants will fund projects that provide businesses and other facilities with information, training, and tools to help them develop and adopt cost-effective changes in production, operation, and use of materials to reduce costs and the use of water, energy, and other natural resources. **Texas: University of Texas, at Arlington**

And if a more general Texas issue/location is okay, perhaps:

EPA Announces \$4 Million in Research Funding to Build Resilience and Protect Vulnerable Groups from Environmental Impacts of Natural Disasters

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-4-million-research-funding-build-resilience-and-protect-vulnerable-groups>

Today, as part of its 50th anniversary celebration and recognition of Environmental Emergency Preparedness month, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced \$3,997,876 in funding to five institutions to conduct research to build resilience in communities and among groups, including children and older adults, that are more vulnerable to the potential environmental impacts of natural disasters. Researchers will investigate topics such as understanding the effect of major coastal flooding events and identifying the most promising infrastructure solutions to reduce hurricane and flood-related industrial contaminant releases and exposures.

U.S. Settles with Valero Over Alleged Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Violations

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/us-settles-valero-over-alleged-gasoline-and-diesel-fuel-violations>

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a settlement today with Valero Energy Corporation and a number of its subsidiaries and affiliates that resolves alleged violations at 12 facilities of Clean Air Act fuel quality requirements that are designed to reduce air pollution from motor vehicles. Pursuant to the settlement, Valero will install pollution controls to reduce an estimated 23 tons of volatile organic compound emissions per year at its terminal in Port Arthur, Texas and pay a \$2.85 million civil penalty to the United States. Valero will also develop and implement a company-wide Fuels Management System to help ensure its production of gasoline and diesel fuel complies with the Clean Air Act. Valero further committed to completing two benzene reduction measures at its refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas that Valero estimates will result in emission reductions of 583 pounds per year.

City of Corpus Christi Agrees to Invest in Water Infrastructure Improvements

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/city-corpus-christi-agrees-invest-water-infrastructure-improvements>

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a settlement with the City of Corpus Christi to improve its sewer system, which, with more than 1,100 miles of sewer lines and more than 100 lift stations, is one of the largest sewer systems in Texas. Under the settlement, the City has agreed to implement a comprehensive set of corrective measures and improvements to the City's sewer system to resolve longstanding problems with sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs). An SSO occurs when sewage is released from a municipal sanitary sewer before it reaches the treatment works and can be caused by broken pipes or backups from blockages or infiltration of rainwater. The City also has agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$1.136 million which will be shared equally with the State of Texas.

From: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 1:11 PM
To: McAtee, Jeffrey <McAtee.Jeffrey@epa.gov>
Subject: HQ Announcements

Jeff – Wondering if any of the recent HQ announcements that we echoed are good opportunities for an event in Dallas with the Administrator. Figure you have better visibility into them than me. I saw today's Freight Leaders which had several winners in Region 6. Other ideas?

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